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PROGRAM INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. P09-01

FROM: MARK E. SKILES
Director of Technical Support

KEVIN G. STRICKLIN
Administrator for
Coal Mine Safety and Health

FELIX A. QUINTANA
Administrator for Metal and Nonmetal
Mine Safety and Health

SUBJECT: Potential Safety Hazard on J. H. Fletcher & Co. Roof Bolting Machines with Independent Left and Right Tram Levers

Who needs this information?

Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) personnel, underground coal mine operators, underground metal and nonmetal operators, miner's representatives, and repair shop facilities should have this information.

Why is MSHA issuing this Program Information Bulletin?

This Program Information Bulletin (PIB) is issued to inform mine operators and users of a potential safety hazard on J. H. Fletcher & Co. (Fletcher) roof bolting machines with independent left and right tram levers. The hazard involves tram levers that stick and do not return to the center or neutral position when released. This can cause unintentional machine motion, resulting in a crushing hazard. Fletcher has reported in Information Bulletin No. 108 that this potential safety hazard is due to an incorrect tolerance between the spool and valve bore and has instituted a recall and replacement of the tram control valve. This PIB affects 259 machines, which are identified by serial number in the attached Fletcher information bulletin.

Information

What machines does this PIB address?

This PIB addresses machines manufactured by Fletcher equipped with independent left and right tram levers.

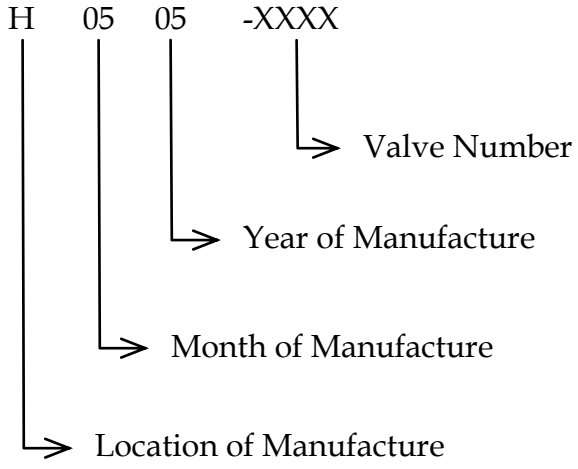
The affected machines include the following models:

Model	Description
RRII	Roof Ranger Dual Head Roof Bolter
CRRII	Roof Ranger Dual Head Roof Bolter on Crawlers
DDR	Angle Drilling Dual Head Roof Bolter
CDDR	Angle Drilling Dual Head Bolter with Crawlers
HDDR	Dual Head Roof Bolter with Walk-Thru Chassis
CHDDR	Dual Head Roof Bolter with Walk-Thru Chassis on Crawlers
DDO	Arm Feed Dual Head Roof Bolter

These affected machines may be equipped with potentially hazardous tram control valves manufactured from **May 2005 through July 2007**. The affected tram control valve part number is 148133-00. The tram control valve serial number follows the format below.

H0505-XXXX

Where:



The affected tram control valve serial numbers range from:

H0505-XXXX through: **H0707-XXXX.**

What is the potential safety hazard with these machines?
The continued use of Fletcher machines with sticking tram control levers could result in serious injury or death to personnel.

This potentially hazardous condition will likely occur when the machine is being trammed. When the operator releases the tram levers, one of the levers does not return to center or neutral. The machine may then continue to move or pivot without any intentional activation of a tram lever by the operator.

If the machine continues to move or pivot, the operator must immediately release the tram enable pedal and depress the emergency stop switch located in the tram deck.

What action should be taken by owners, operators, and personnel working in the vicinity of the affected machines?
DO NOT use the machine if a tram control valve lever is sticking.

Contact Fletcher for a replacement tram control valve or spool and follow the guidelines contained in Fletcher's information bulletin. Anyone who operates, performs maintenance activities, or works in the vicinity of the affected machines should be notified and provided copies of this PIB and Fletcher's information bulletin.

If a Fletcher field representative has not contacted you concerning the tram control valve, contact Fletcher to arrange a time to replace the tram control valve or spools. The Fletcher contact information is provided in the attached Fletcher Information Bulletin No. 108.

What action is Fletcher taking on the affected machines?
Fletcher issued Information Bulletin No. 108 in May 2008, to alert the mining industry of the potential safety hazard. The information bulletin also includes information regarding the necessary actions to be taken by the machine owners and operators. Fletcher will replace the tram control valve or tram control valve spools, free of charge, on all machines listed in the information bulletin.

How are machines identified when retrofitted with new tram control valves or spools?
Machines that receive a **new tram control valve** can be identified as follows:

1: The part number on the tram control valve will be 148133-11 instead of 148133-00. Reference Figure 1 and Figure 2 below.

2: The date code in the serial number will be later than the population of suspect tram control valves (H0608-XXXX or later). Reference Figure 1 and Figure 2 below.

Figure 1 (Tram Control Valve)

Will be "11"

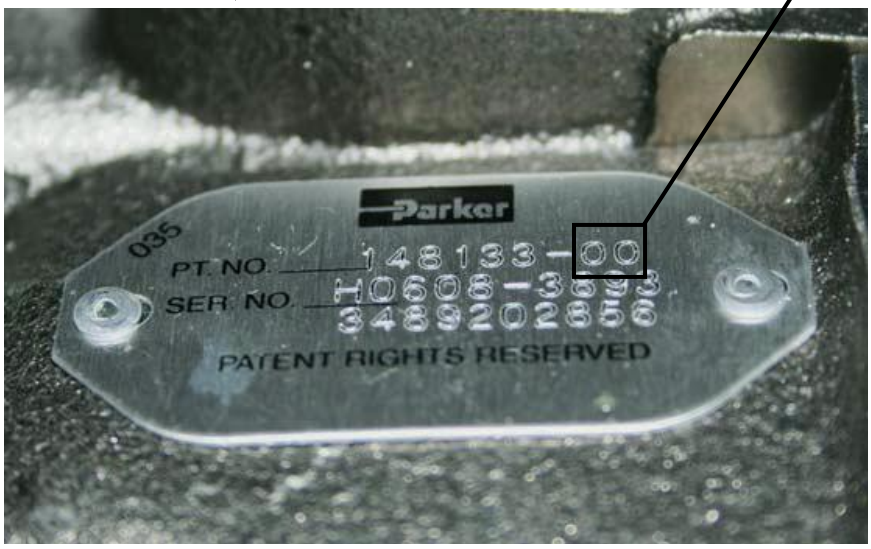


Figure 2 (Identification Tag)

Machines that receive new tram control valve **spools** can be identified as follows:

1: The new part number "148133-11" will be stenciled on the tram control valve body. Reference Figure 3 and Figure 5 below.

2: If the original tram control valve tag is present, "11" will be stamped over the "00" at the end of the part number. Reference Figure 3 and Figure 4 below.

3: The new spools are stamped with "159X" on the handle end of the spool. Reference Figure 3 and Figure 6 below.

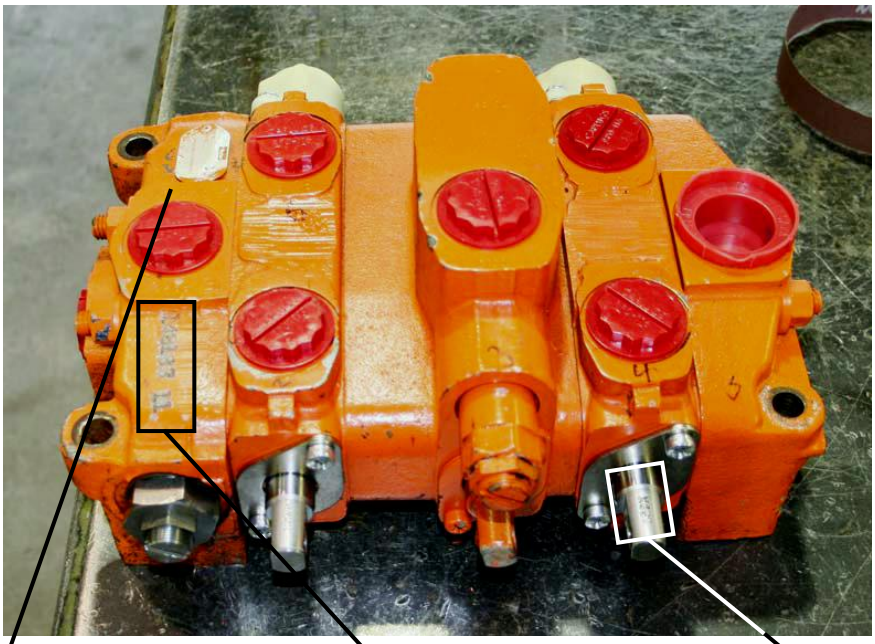


Figure 3
(Tram Control Valve)

Figure 4 (Identification Tag)

Figure 5 (Tram Control Valve Body)

Figure 6 (Spool)

What is the background for this PIB?

Fletcher issued Information Bulletin No. 105, dated August 2007, to alert the mining industry of the potential safety hazard associated with the sticking tram control levers. At the time the bulletin was issued, Fletcher was investigating the cause of the sticking tram control valve levers.

Since Information Bulletin No. 105 was issued, Fletcher determined that the sticking tram control valve levers were caused by an incorrect tolerance between the spool and valve bore. Fletcher reported that it has been notified that five incidents of a sticking tram control valve lever have occurred after Information Bulletin No. 105 was issued. Fletcher also reported that no injuries to personnel have occurred as a result of a sticking tram control valve lever.

What is MSHA's authority for this PIB?

The Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended, 30 U.S.C. § 801 et seq.; 30 C.F.R. § 48.7; 30 C.F.R. § 57.14100; 30 C.F.R. § 75.512

Internet Availability

This information bulletin may be viewed on the Internet by accessing MSHA's home page at http://www.MSHA.gov and then choosing Compliance Info, and Program Information Bulletins.

Who are the MSHA contact persons for this PIB?*

Coal Mine Safety and Health
Stephen Gigliotti, (202) 693-9479
E-mail: Gigliotti.Stephen@dol.gov

Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health
Brian Goepfert, (202) 693-9645
E-mail: Goepfert.Brian@dol.gov

Technical Support, Approval and Certification Center
Steve Cole, (304) 547-2304
E-mail: Cole.Stephen@dol.gov

Who will receive this PIB?

MSHA Program Policy Manual Holders
Miners' Representatives
Underground Mine Operators
Manufacturers of Mine Equipment and Mining Products
Mine Equipment Repair Shop Facilities
Special Interest Groups

*Contact information was updated on 7/25/14.